THE SEASON OF ADVENT

This week, I began to look for the Christmas decorations. I confess that I am a little late getting started this year, but I have been somewhat busy the past few weeks. With a deep sigh, I ascended the stairs to the attic, climbed through the tiny door and turned on the light. A thirty watt bulb illuminates the space. I looked around. Our attic is cluttered. It is full of stuff, the residue of nearly thirty years of living in this house. How would I ever find the manger among all this flotsam and jetsam? My first impulse was to pray: "help me, God, to find you in the midst of all this stuff." That stopped me; it was a perfect Advent prayer. How do we find you, God, in the midst of all that gets in the way?

Christians are constantly aware of God; we remember God in our prayers and in our daily lives. We thank God for helping us through the challenging times. We pray for each other. Even if we are sometimes a bit cautious about discussing God among casual acquaintances, God is never far from our minds. But most of us, whenever we think about God, imagine a powerful, omniscient and incredibly enormous being. After all, who but God Almighty could create the world? Who but God Almighty would have the audacity - and the ability - to create beings in His own image and people a world with them? And who but God Almighty, in His infinite wisdom, would trust such creatures with the gift of free will? Well, we say, He is God; God can do anything.

True enough. But Advent asks us to look a little differently at Almighty God. Advent is full of images; strange stories of John the Baptist with his horrid diet and unfashionable clothing; readings from the Revelation offer us pictures many-eyed creatures that dwell in Heaven; dreams abound;
angels appear and, finally, on Christmas morning, God Himself comes to us in human form. What can we make of all this? After the comparatively calm Trinity season, Advent strikes us with a certain force each year.

Advent is a penitential season, a time of preparation. This season reminds us to clear out those elements in our lives that are not of God. We humans tend to be egotistical creatures, taking ourselves far too seriously. We get ourselves tied up in knots about all sorts of things: Christmas shopping, the price of heating oil and, yes, those blasted letters from Rome. In the midst of all this, we often forget that we are God's creation, living in God's world and placed here to do God's will. God wants us to remember this.

After some looking, after opening two or three boxes, I did find the manger. It is not large; it fits on most any flat surface. Even the smallest table will hold it easily. And the smallest piece in this manger scene, among the animals, the wise men, the parents is, of course, Jesus. The smallest of the small, tiny and vulnerable. God Almighty.

That is the great paradox of this season; Almighty God has chosen to be with us, despite our own weaknesses and frailties, and to share the joys and sorrows of our lives. He embraces us with a love beyond our comprehension. He seeks only our embrace in return. During Advent, if we reach through the clutter of our lives and seek to embrace Him, we may just come to know something of the wonder of this season. And the enormous gift that has been given to us.

A Blessed Advent and a Very Merry Christmas to you All!

Your Brother in Christ,

+Brian

ed note: The Bishop's Advent prayer, "Help me, God, to find you in the midst of all this stuff," seems even more appropriate than usual this year. The air has certainly been a-buzz with the latest developments in RC/Anglican relations. The following are the two statements by our bishop on the matter. First, the pastoral letter he asked to have read in the churches:

Nov. 11, 2009
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Many of you are no doubt aware that the Apostolic Constitution was released [in November] by the Holy See. This is the document we have been awaiting since the original announcement by the Roman Catholic Church some three weeks [before].

Since its release, the bishops, clergy and laity of this diocese have been reading the Apostolic Constitution with great interest. There are many aspects of this particular document that are generous indeed to former Anglicans.

There are, however, many questions that remain, particularly for those of us in the Anglican Church in America. Does the Apostolic Constitution relate to the ACA/TAC along with the former Anglicans mentioned in the document? Or will there be a further announcement? Regarding these questions, only time will tell.

The particular organizational issues addressed in the Apostolic Constitution will require time to sort out and digest. The House of Bishops of the Anglican Church in America has promised its "serious, prayerful" consideration of the Apostolic Constitution. We are bound to do just that. Clearly, we cannot, nor should we, respond without a time of prayer, reflection and discernment. A too rapid response to a
document such as this may well suggest an impulsive reaction, when a calm, measured and deliberative approach is warranted.

To that end, I will convene a series of meetings with clergy and laity over the next two weeks. We will discuss the Apostolic Constitution in detail, raise questions, and seek to discern God's will for us all. We are indeed members of Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We are Anglican. We will remain Anglican. And this participatory model is how Anglicans conduct themselves. Yes, decisions will need to be made. Those decisions must be informed by study, prayer and an earnest desire to seek God's will.

I invite your participation in this discussion.

Your Brother in Christ,

+Brian

and the following from the bishop's monthly newsletter for November:

THE APOSTOLIC CONSTITUTION AND RELATED ISSUES

I should begin by addressing the major issue of the day; the proposed intercommunion with the Holy See. I have issued two pastoral letters regarding this development and will not repeat myself here. I do wish to emphasize, however, that we are in a period of education and discernment. We need to educate ourselves about the various documents that are coming our way and to pray for discernment, that we may better know God's purpose for us all. I encourage you all to engage in a period of study. Look at our history, our liturgy and our theology. Study the corresponding history, liturgy and theology of other churches, particularly that of the Roman Catholic Church. This will allow us to become better informed about the decisions that we will be called to make.

As to discernment, I will offer the following metaphor. Consider that we have been given a map. All the details have yet to be filled in, but we can see some of the landmarks. Each day, we receive more information and are able to chart our course with greater precision. We want to chart a safe course, a course that will allow us all to travel in safety to a destination that will be both welcoming and respectful of the travelers who will have undertaken a truly remarkable journey. As Christians, we should welcome the opportunity to live into the reality of Jesus Christ. That always requires a journey of one kind or another.

Every day, it seems, we are receiving more information. Just this morning, Archbishop Hepworth sent a letter to the bishops of the Anglican Church in America. In this letter, Archbishop Hepworth hints at another landmark on the horizon. He notes that a specific response to the TAC will be forthcoming. This will address our own requests made two years ago at Portsmouth, England. When we receive that letter, we will know more about how to chart our course. When that letter is received, I will distribute it immediately.

Just remember: we are Anglicans; we will remain Anglicans and our course will be guided by the Anglican compass given us by God.

In the meantime, know that I hold you all in my prayers.

LITURGY

Remember that our canons provide for the use of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and the appropriate missals in our worship. Other forms are not approved. However, permission may be granted for the trial use of a text on a one-time basis. This has been granted on one occasion for the use of the Book of Divine Worship.

+Brian
Bp Marsh to lead a tour to the Holy Land

Bishop Brian Marsh, the Ordinary of the Diocese of the Northeast, will be leading a 10 day tour to the Holy Land in 2010. It will leave Tuesday, April 20th. The basic cost is $2498 (includes roundtrip airfare from NYC, first class hotels, guided sightseeing, entrance fees to sites, and daily breakfast and dinner) plus gratuities, taxes, and administrative fees. This is a trip of a lifetime and will give participants opportunities to literally walk where the prophets, apostles, and Jesus walked. The coordinator for this tour is Archdeacon Alan Koller, (845) 496-2804 or akoller@frontiernet.net who has brochures for distribution. Since final payment is due to the tour operator (Educational Opportunities Tours.) by December 15th, it is important to register with a $300 deposit as soon as possible. Small discounts are available for early registrations. Logos House credits will be given to postulants who sign up and complete an academic paper.

Anglican Church In America
(a part of the Traditional Anglican Communion)
Diocese of the Northeast

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Bishop Florenza leaves for ACC

ed note: Bishop Rocco Florenza and his parish in Ansonia, Connecticut have withdrawn from the ACA to become part of the ACC (Anglican Catholic Church) Bishop Florenza sent this letter:

October 28, 2009, 5:48 PM

My Dear Brothers:

When I explained to you on that day in Illinois that I would be leaving the APCK - listing my reasons- and joining the ACA, many of you eventually came with me. Let me also say that if, given the same circumstances, I would not hesitate doing so again. You are in a safe place in communion with orthodox bishops, a number of whom are and remain my heroes.

However, events that no one could have predicted have placed a great strain on me as a bishop and as a man. When the economic crunch came about, many of my parishioners sustained financial duress. When I left the APCK two churches that gave the bulk of our income as a diocese remained. These two situations, when placed together, required my taking on secular employment, working in the security field five and one half days per week. I have been a full time security officer during the week and a weekend pastor, leaving very little time to work at my ministry, for almost a year now.

I don't want to do this any more than I have to.

Bishop Marsh has been a brother to me and has gone out of his way to make me as comfortable as possible. He is an enormously generous man and more importantly, one of the finest Christians I know. But even my assisting him has been severely curtailed due to the reasons cited above.

In my heart I believe I am called to be a bishop and I want to minister to the church I love with all my being as a functioning bishop. What none of you know is that shortly after my entering the ACA, a number of offers were presented to me from other "jurisdictions" to be their bishop, one, a national entity, as their AB. I politely refused, having made a home in the ACA.

However, I miss being a diocesan bishop; it is my vocation and it's where my heart is.

I have had offered to me the Missionary Diocese of New England, including the states of New Jersey and Delaware, and perhaps Pennsylvania in the ACC, and I have accepted. My decision did not happen overnight; it took a deal of soul searching and prayer. And I want to make it very clear that this writing is not to be misconstrued as an invitation to join me. We've quite enough robber barons among us and it must stop.

Therefore, I have resigned this day from my affiliation with the ACA and I leave as a clergyman in good standing. Naturally it is my hope that we all may one as Anglicans and I will continue to work most diligently towards that end. Accordingly your tithes once sent to me, should now revert to your respective dioceses.

Please pray for me as I pray for you. My love to each and every one of you, to your families, and the good people in your charge.

Fraternally yours in our Lord Jesus Christ, I remain,

Faithfully, + Rocco A. Florenza

Editorial

"Thy Kingdom come ... on earth as it is in heaven." In Advent we prepare for His coming ... for the remembrance of Christmas Day, for His return in great glory, and for His coming day by day into our lives and our world. This world that He comes into is far from perfect, filled with all sorts of problems and concerns, and there are a lot of things on our minds, the state of our nation, the economy, the erosion of morality, the very obvious disunity of the Church, the coming and going of people from one part to another. There is discord and controversy everywhere and it is so easy to be distracted into all these issues and to forget why we are really here.

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord! Make straight a highway for our God!" We are called to be fishers of men. In with all the business that had to be done, Synod was energized by the call of the Great Commission, to go and to tell. Yes, all the other concerns are important. There is no question of that, but we cannot afford to let them drive from us the overriding concern that we live in the midst of a world that needs Jesus, and it's our job to tell them, and to show them in our own lives what it is to be a Christian. May God so lead us all. ——ed pacht
Synod 2009 - Diocese of the Northeast

On October 15th and 16th about 100 delegates and guests gathered at the Red Jacket Resort in North Conway, NH for the 18th annual meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of the Northeast. North Conway is located in the beautiful White Mountains of New Hampshire and the colorful foliage added to the spectacular mountain views - God’s artistry at work. St. Margaret of Scotland was the host parish and did a splendid job with the arrangements! For some, it was the first opportunity to worship at St. Margaret, home parish of the late Bp. Bruce Chamberlain, the beloved spiritual leader who played a major role in the formation of our diocese. A youth program was added to the event schedule this year and was enthusiastically received by the twelve children who participated. Thanks to everyone at St. Margaret’s who helped in this endeavor and especially to Loretta Steward-Whitehead who chaired the host committee!

Official activities began on Thursday afternoon with meetings of the Diocesan Standing Committee, the Board of Examining Chaplains, and Clericus. In the evening, attendees enjoyed fellowship and food at a social hour followed by the synod banquet.

Bp. Brian Marsh welcomed the group and announced that the goal for the coming year is “Embracing the Great Commission”. He encouraged all to serve as disciples, bringing others to Christ, and emphasized the need for growth and establishment of new missions, stating that clergy and laity must work together building on their strengths. He spoke of improving stewardship, offering of liturgical workshops for clergy, and the formation of a House of Clergy and House of Laity to work on specific tasks during the year. The Bishop announced that a Canon Missioner and a Canon Youth Minister would be named.

The Bishop’s official Report to Synod was distributed in hardcopy to delegates for review.

Bp. Marsh maintained a busy schedule since the last synod, visiting twenty parishes within the diocese, as well as serving as rector at Trinity, West Lebanon and Good Shepherd, Charles-town. He confirmed many new communicants during his visitations. Thanks were extended to Bp. Langberg, Bp. Florenza and Archdeacon Koller for their service as representatives of the diocese at Bp. Marsh’s request. The Bishop also chaired two Standing Committee meetings (the “vestry” of the diocese), attended three ACA House of Bishops/Executive Council meetings, and the General Synod (ACA) in Belleville, IL.

Two priests were newly installed as rectors, Fr. Carleton Clarke, St. Joseph’s, Brooklyn, and Fr. Samuel Logan, Olde St. Paul’s, Portland, ME. Several ordinations were held. Ed Kalish (St. Thomas) and Herby Rodney (St. Joseph) were ordained to the diaconate and Dn. Jeffrey Monroe was ordained to the priesthood. Fr. Monroe has been appointed Interim Vicar of St. Margaret of Scotland. Newly named subdeacons include Ed Becker, Walter Jones and John Dodge. On a sadder note, two faithful clergymen went to their eternal rest during the year, Dn. Lawrence LaFleur and Fr. Donald Farrell. May they rest in peace.

Bishop Marsh serves both the Board of Examining Chaplains (ex-Officio) and Logos House (faculty member) and he reported on several activities related to clergy education. Seven men were registered as postulants and two as candidates for holy orders. Thirteen men participated in the Logos House Summer Program and the Bishop thanked Canon Granville Henthorne for administering exceptional training programs and courses for men studying for holy orders. Over 30 men are currently enrolled in the Logos House program.

The Bishop’s office is located at One Main Street, Belchertown, MA and includes a small oratory, as well as access to meeting rooms.

Bp. Marsh concluded his address with an expression of gratitude to Fathers Owen Williams and Christian Tutor and the staff at Trinity, Rochester, for the dedication the parish has shown in assuming the role as Procathedral.

Following the Bishop’s address, Canon Henthorne, Logos House Director, presented Fr. Jeff Monroe with a Certificate in Priestly Studies and Ian Dunn with a Certificate of Diaconal Studies.
Bp. Emeritus George Langberg provided musical entertainment that was greatly enjoyed by all.

Friday morning began with Holy Eucharist at St. Margaret. During the service, Fr. John Westcott was named Canon Missioner and Fr. Robert Fredrickson, Canon Youth Minister.

Following mass, attendees enjoyed a breakfast buffet at the Red Jacket before settling down to business.

The Synod meeting convened with opening prayers followed by a blessing of the youth and welcoming remarks by Bishop Ordinary Brian Marsh. Bp. Marsh noted two changes in the proceedings from prior synods, the submission and distribution of written reports for review prior to the meeting, and a breakout session of the individual Houses of Clergy and Laity during the meeting.

Bp. George Langberg then addressed the Synod, giving an update on his pursuit of a Master’s Degree in Ecumenical Studies and a report on a trip to Rome that was in conjunction with his studies. He briefed the Synod on the content of the letter submitted by the TAC to the Holy See, reiterating that the goal is to be fully received into Communion with Rome, re-establishing a “Church of Churches”, while retaining our Anglican heritage, liturgy and forms of worship. Background and current, accurate information on the unity movement can be found on the ACA and TAC (link in ACA site) websites and you’re encouraged to visit these sites. Unfortunately, much misinformation and inaccuracies have been disseminated in the media, leading to confusion and misunderstanding.

(Note: An announcement was issued by Rome subsequent to the Synod. It is a positive step towards the intercommunion goal; work will continue according to God’s plan and timetable. Much still needs to be carefully considered and agreed upon. Please continue to pray for unity in Christ’s One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.)

Secretary Linnea Shaver called the roll and established that a quorum was present in both houses. The Synod then unanimously agreed to accept petitions by St. Augustine of Canterbury, Old Orchard Beach, ME, and St. Andrew, Albany, NY area, as diocesan missions. Fr. Clarke asked that the petition for parish status by St. Augustine, Glendale, NY be withdrawn, thus retaining its status as a mission, and the request was granted.

Bp. Marsh recognized several newly ordained clergy. Deacons Herby Rodney and Ed Kalish were ordained to the diaconate in April and May, respectively, and Fr. Jeff Monroe to the priesthood in August. The Bishop announced that Deacons Frank Bartlett and Richard Dibble would be ordained to the priesthood in the coming months. He introduced and welcomed visiting clergy, the Rev. Dr. Edward Chambers and the Rev. James Hiles.

Business matters proceeded with acceptance of last year’s Synod minutes and a review of the 2008 parochial reports. Secretary Linnea Shaver reminded parishes of the importance of meeting commitments, particularly in the areas of clergy pension funding, DNE tithes, and National Church support. The meeting continued with the Treasurer’s reports. Treasurer Kathy
Lippman reinforced the secretary’s comments regarding financial commitments. The balance has shown a downward trend over the last few years and insufficient parish contributions to the National Church have a significant detrimental effect on the diocesan treasury. Fully funding national church support through parish contributions would result in a budget at or near target at year’s end. The treasurer noted that the Diocese receives grant money from the National Church for such items as outreach publicity and the youth camp.

The proposed budget was reviewed. A deficit of approximately $10,000 was projected. Treasurer Lippman stated that the Standing Committee had scrutinized the budget and deemed the expenses as presented necessary for the functioning of the diocese. Following discussions and minor changes, both reports were approved.

Bishop Marsh announced a breakout of the session into two houses, House of Clergy and House of Laity, noting that the diocesan canons do not provide for this. Thus, Canon Henthorne moved to divide the House as proposed and to authorize the Chancellor to draft a canon enabling permanent establishment of the two houses, subject to ratification of synod in plenary session. The motion was unanimously carried. The Bishop appointed Kirby Wood and Andrew Jordan as Chairman and Vice-chairman, respectively, in the House of Laity. Kathy Lippman and Linnea Shaver will assist with secretarial and treasurer duties. Fr. Sam Logan was appointed Chairman of the House of Clergy. Bishop Marsh stated that the purpose of establishing two houses is to more fully involve laity members in the business management of the diocese, thus allowing clergy to more effectively carry out the pastoral work of the church.

The Synod reassembled after approximately one hour and oral reports of the House Meetings were presented.

Kirby Wood used Trinity, Rochester, NH, as an example of how laity and clergy successfully work together by handling specific tasks, enabling each to effectively address the business and pastoral needs, respectively, of the parish. He noted that the House of Laity’s goal is to assist with tasks as requested by the Bishop. Scheduled meetings with Jr. and Sr. Wardens 1-2 times a year to discuss tasks and paths forward were recommended. Kirby reported that the House of Laity’s first task was to focus mainly on the finances of the Diocese, in particular, on parish payment obligations of diocesan tithes and national church support, and how best to overcome the financial burden faced by the diocese due to insufficient or non-payment.

An acclamation addressing this situation, endorsed by the House of Laity, was presented as a motion to both houses. The procedural document contained recommendations for tracking parish payments and appropriate follow-up steps for non-compliance, including applications for consideration of special circumstances. A “forgiveness” clause recommended waiving both Diocesan and National obligations in arrears, i.e. prior to the current year. Following discussion and some word changes, the amended procedural proposal was unanimously adopted by the Synod delegation.

Dn. Kalish presented highlights of the House of Clergy meeting. Fr. Lewis Glidden was appointed vice-chairman and Ed Kalish, secretary. Fr. Tutor will address the issue of educating clergy in customary procedures for the purpose of establishing consistency in the way things are done at the parish level. Fr. Monroe asked for as much input as possible from parishes on local and state social issues so that position statements of the Church can be appropriately released to the press. Continuing education of clergy and the frequent offering of pertinent courses were deemed of utmost importance. Fr. Westcott volunteered to act as a resource for communities looking to establish new congregations. Fr. Clarke requested more discussion among clergy on the relationship with the larger Anglican community and unity issues.
Bp. Marsh tabled the matter, suggesting the topic be discussed at Clericus.

Brief oral reports (reporters’ names in parentheses) were presented (most reports were distributed for review prior to the meeting). Some highlights included:

- **Board of Examining Chaplains (Canon Davis):** Offered a one-week summer program (under umbrella of Logos House) attended by 16 men; conducted several interviews.
- **Chancellor (Walter Jones):** Continuing work with Fr. Tutor (Safe Environment Coordinator) on Pledge to Protect compliance.
- **Logos House (Canon Henthorne):** Has begun construction on the site of the planned permanent campus for Logos House (located adjacent to St. Thomas, Ellsworth). Total enrollment in 2009 is 41 students, 24 from within the diocese. 2009 edition of a course catalog and Anglican Studies Track has been published. Canon Clyde Cox and Fr. Sam Logan have been added to the faculty.
- **Northeast Anglican (Ed Pacht):** Following a lengthy hiatus, Ed Pacht took over and has completed his first year as editor. Thanks, contributors – keep the articles coming, and thanks, Ed – keep up the good work!
- **St. Luke’s Youth Camp (Dn. Rich Dibble):** Camp Director Dibble gave a high rating for the facilities at the new location in Massachusetts. The camp theme was “The Great Commission”. Counselors and participating clergy made the week a memorable spiritual and social experience for the 14 campers who attended. Dn. Dibble called for more volunteers and put out a request for a qualified nurse to serve as backup. He noted that monetary donations are always welcome. Contact Dn. Dibble with questions or to volunteer.
- **Archdeacon (The Ven. Dr. Alan Koller):** The Archdeacon made several parish visits as a representative of the Bishop, and provided pastoral care and counseling to clergy as requested by the Bishop. He also served as coordinator for the Clergy and Wives Retreat and the Logos House Summer School and is currently assisting Bp. Marsh as coordinator of a planned trip to the Holy Land next April.

Deaneries:

- **St. Benedict (Dean Ley):** Fr. Clarke was installed as rector of St. Joseph’s and Herby Rodney was ordained to the diaconate. A deanery picnic (southern tier) was held at Round Pond, West Point in June. Deanery clergy attended several Clericus meetings throughout the year.
- **Holy Spirit (Dean Williams):** Deanery clergy met at Clericus. Discussions on tackling the ordinary parish problems led the clergy to recognize that a vast resource for help and counseling lies within the collective ministry of the clergy, many of whom who have experienced and dealt with serious parish issues.
- **International Anglican Fellowship (Peter Thomas):** Peter reported on the global and national activities of the IAF over the last 12 months. He announced that Fr. Williams will administer the IAF bookstore. Bp. Langberg explained that the financial administration of the IAF has two aspects, support for the TAC Priemate’s travel, and global missionary outreach (i.e., in the US and throughout the world).
- **Deo Gratias (Ingrid Magar):** Deo Gratias donations totaled $2500. Grants were allocated as follows:
  - $750 to St. Luke’s Camp
  - $500 to residential seminarian Michael Cupoli
  - $500 to the Logos House program
  - $750 to Fr. Steven (ACC) for his work with orphans in the Congo
- **Safe Environment Coordinator (Fr. Tutor):** Ongoing Pledge to Protect monitoring for compliance.
- **Communications/Press (Fr. Monroe):** Several communications and press releases during the past year on diocesan events, position statements, unity updates. Fr. Monroe asked that DNE members send news on area social issues, major church events, etc. and keep him updated with current email addresses.

The meeting continued with appointments and elections.

Standing Committee: Fr. Fredrickson was elected to a two-year term. Dn. Moody and Peter Thomas were elected to three-year terms.

DNE Officers: Officers were reappointed for one year terms by the Bishop: Chancellor, Mr. Jones; Secretary, Mrs. Shaver; Treasurer, Mrs. Lippman; Deputy Treasurer, Steven Young; Communications Officer, Fr. Monroe;
Safe Environment Coordinator, Fr. Tutor.

Board of Examining Chaplains: Fr. Davis was appointed Board Chairman for a term of one year. Fr. Williams and Fr. Koller remain on the Board.

Diocesan Court of the Ordinary: The Bishop reappointed Mrs. Lippman for a term of six years.

Bishop Marsh thanked host committee members, and all clergy and laity who helped at various diocesan events during the year. He proposed a resolution of deep gratitude to Bp. Langberg for his pastoral leadership and friendship, and a resolution of appreciation to Secretary Shaver and Treasurer Lippman.

Fr. Ley proposed a resolution of thanks to St. Margaret of Scotland for their cordiality as hosts. Loretta Steward-Whitehead, committee chairwoman, was presented with roses.

Marilyn Williams proposed a resolution of thanks to Kirby Wood and George Beatty for organizing and leading the House of Laity discussions.

The Anglican Church of the Ascension, Manchester, CT will host the 2010 diocesan synod. Trinity, Rochester, NH, and St. Thomas, Ellsworth, ME are scheduled to host the 2011 and 2012 synods, respectively.

A Saturday morning prayer service followed by breakfast concluded the events. Many thanks to all for an enjoyable and productive synod!

----------Linnea Shaver, Secretary DNE

**WHAT IS DEO GRATIAS?**

The main purpose of the Deo Gratias, (“Thanks be to God”) offering is to bring more prayer into our homes. To take part, one needs only to keep a small coin bank handy for collecting your thank offerings. Upon occasions of joy, sadness, uncertainty, or simply a quiet time with our Lord, say a prayer to thank God for His blessings of love, comfort, mercy and grace; then drop a coin in the bank in appreciation.

The monies collected annually from participants in each parish should, preferably, be sent to the Diocese treasurer in advance of the Annual Diocesan Synod (although our treasurer, Kathy Lippman, has always very kindly accommodated those procrastinators who bring “last minute” collections with them to Synod – thank you, Kathy!). The funds collected each year are disbursed by the Deo Gratias committee at their annual meeting held at Synod. Letters from parishes, requesting funding for various needs, are typically brought to the Synod by attending delegates, or may be mailed in advance. The committee reads and discusses each request, then votes on how to best distribute the funds collected. Everyone attending Synod is cordially invited to participate in the committee meeting.

Please remember that the primary focus of Deo Gratias is PRAYER, not fund-raising. The act of putting a coin in the offering bank is a gesture of love to help us bring body, mind and soul together in the presence of God. Our loving relationship with our Lord can be seen and felt and used through our coins. They allow us to turn our thanks into a medium in which our prayers can go out into the world to help God’s people.

Deo Gratias is a personal prayer exercise that enriches our spiritual life and draws us closer to our loving God. I hope you will be moved to make this a part of your daily prayer life.

*Note: Many folks are not familiar with Deo Gratias. I encourage you to copy and share this article with everyone in your parish so that they all have an opportunity to incorporate this meaningful act of love and thanks in their daily time with our Lord.*

Yours in Christ,

Ingrid Magar (St. Elizabeth’s, Tuxedo)
Chairperson, Deo Gratias Committee
**Amherst NH**  
St. Luke

We are eagerly looking forward to the coming Advent Season and to the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. We give special thanks to our Vicar, Father Christian Tutor and our Deacon, Frank Bartlett for their leadership and dedication.

A Pot Luck luncheon took place on the 18th of October to celebrate the Feast of St. Luke and also to celebrate the birthday of Deacon Frank Bartlett. We celebrated with a birthday cake and the singing of Happy Birthday. Deacon Bartlett presented Colyer Garre and Bill Hammond with their official paper work noting that they are Licensed Lay Readers. A special thank you and congratulations to both of them for their dedication.

The wedding of two members, Nicole Bresnahan and James Pidgeon, took place recently with Father Christian Tutor and Deacon Frank Bartlett as the celebrants. Due to the small size of our church the ceremony was held at All Saints in Concord. We congratulate Nicole and James and wish them a long and happy life together.

The plans for our Christmas Craft Fair on December 12 are in high gear and we look forward to it with great enthusiasm. We have several outside vendors already signed up and the committees are formed. St. Luke will have both a Craft Table and a Bake Table. We are fortunate to have many talented members working feverishly on craft and baked items to be sold.

Our in-house newsletter, “Tidings” is in the process of publication. Special thanks to Carol and Vinoy Laughner and Lee Peterson, for their efforts in putting the newsletter together.

Bible Study on Saturday mornings is another highlight at St. Lukes. We are now studying Leviticus. This Book has brought up much discussion and thought. Special thanks to Jim Pinard and John Leslie who enthusiastically have led our classes.

Outreach projects are in full gear. Food for Home, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and The Prayer Chain Ministry, are all up and running. Our congregation has supported all our Ministries.

Another day of yard work brought out a number of members and we worked feverishly to clean up the leaves. Thank you again to Doug Sleeper and his crew,...as usual they did a great job.

Once again we are making plans to hold an afternoon Ladies Tea in the undercroft on Saturday, February 13, 2010. We look forward to being together each time we hold a Tea. It is a chance to get to know each other and discuss ideas on how we can help our members and our community.

In closing, those of us who attended Synod in October would like to say Thank You to St. Margaret of Scotland for doing a wonderful job in hosting the Synod.

-----Lillian Power

**Glendale NY**  
St. Augustine Anglican Mission

Well, the Synod is now over and I am sorry that I was unable to attend this year. I met and made some good friends over the past three years. I learned a lot from them and was proud to attend service with them. Subdeacon Desmond Williams attended for the first time and is looking forward to attend again. Lorraine King and Elaine Feist also attended as alternates. When Bishop Brian Marsh visited with us in may, we talked about Saint Augustine becoming a church. Well, the Synod would be coming up soon and we would discuss it further at that time. When the subject was brought up, Father Braithwaite said that Saint Augustine members thought that we should remain a mission for at least one more year.
The Outreach Group of Saint Augustine is starting its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for the needy and homebound of Saint Augustine and the Reformed Church of Glendale. We collect canned and dry food only. Gift cards for food at the local Supermarket are also donated. Once Thanksgiving is over, the Outreach Group gets ready for its annual Jesse Tree Program. Names of children from infants to teenagers are hung on the tree. One can pick a name from the tree and then buy a gift for that child. Once the gifts are collected, the Outreach takes them to a local children’s organization that gave us the names of the boys and girls.

When Father Braithwaite needs to take some time off, or gets sick, No Problem. Desmond Williams and myself, who are both subdeacons, perform Morning Prayer.

Well, at this time I would like to wish all a Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas Holiday.

Ellsworth, Maine
St. Thomas Church,

Things continue to look up at St. Thomas.

On October 16, St. Thomas sponsored an antique appraisal fair, presented by Kaja Veilleux of Thomaston, ME, one of Maine’s largest antique dealers. The fair yielded $250.00, the proceeds of which to be used for the building fund.

We are pleased to congratulate Ian Dunn, a postulant for the priesthood, on his successful completion of his tests for the diaconate. His ordination as a deacon will be at Bishop Marsh’s next visit to our parish, planned for later this fall.

St. Thomas has entered into an agreement with Logos House to construct Logos House buildings on St. Thomas’ property. The library is likely to be completed by the end of this year, with books to be brought to the library early next year.

The exterior of the library has been completed. Our crew of Ian Dunn, Siobhan Harris, Ed Hart, Joyce Barr, Kevan Shave, and Kevin Kelly worked diligently on the first coat of paint on Saturday November 7, followed by a brief

pizza party and Evening Prayer. We continue to have Evening Prayer at St. Thomas each Saturday at 4 p.m.

On Sunday Nov. 8 we celebrated Fr. Henthorne’s birthday of Nov. 9. We celebrated with a cake after services and presented Fr. Henthorne with a birthday card.

In recent weeks we have been studying documents from the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission regarding the issues of intercommunion and relations between Anglicans and Rome, resulting in a significant discussion.

Huntington Station NY
Good Shepherd

On November 1st we had the distinct pleasure of having Father Koller visit with us. It is very reassuring to have our small group included.

Father Koller gave a sermon for All Saints’ Day. He mentioned several Saints in the Bible, then he pointed out that we could be one too. Father Koller brought his own music. It was beautiful. It lifted our spirits and filled our hearts. We thank you, Father Koller, for joining us and making it so special.

Father Joel paid a visit to Bob Bartels at the rehabilitation center. Bob was very pleased to see him. Bob mentioned that his friend Jean, a member of Good Shepherd, is now in a nursing home. Jean spent a good deal of her time with Bob. This will be difficult for both of them. We miss them very much and we hope God watches over them.

We had two birthdays in August. Wynne Trenholme is now 95 years young. My daughter Donna also had a birthday. In October, Father Joel and I had our birthdays. We celebrated them all with Father Joel’s blessings after Sunday services, which included birthday cakes for each. I would like to thank Father Joel and Bonnie for my cake.

--------Arlene C. Block

----------Carlo J. Saavedra

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--------Arlene C. Block
Greetings from St. Elizabeth’s! We enjoyed a beautiful fall season here in Tuxedo this year, and hope you did as well. October was highlighted with a trip to Conway, New Hampshire, for several of us, to attend the Synod of the Diocese of the Northeast. Those of us who attended enjoyed sharing wonderful fellowship with our Anglican friends from throughout the Diocese. The Synod proved to be, once again, a joyful and fruitful experience, and we extend our thanks to our gracious hosts from St. Margaret of Scotland who planned and coordinated this year’s Synod.

It’s hard to believe 2009 will soon be over! We’re now busy planning for all of the year end activities surrounding Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. We held our roast beef dinner fund-raiser on November 7th. Kudos to head chef, Ken Magar, our parish volunteers, and our local Boy Scout troop who contribute their time and efforts in making this annual event a repeated success. Our thanks also go out, once again, to the Eagle Valley Vol. Fire Company, who generously allows us to use their lovely hall and kitchen facilities for the dinner.

Our Sunday School children made some very creative Thanksgiving cards to send to Jason Pallack and his fellow troops, presently serving our country in Iraq. Jason is the son of parishioners, Linda and Bob Pallack, and is a St. Elizabeth’s Sunday School “graduate”. St. Elizabeth’s parishioners have also shipped several boxes of personal items and “goodies” to Jason and his buddies so that they will be there in time for the Christmas season. We pray that God’s love will bless Jason and all of our troops with peace and comfort during their time overseas, and that they will soon be home safely with their families. Please remember to keep all of our brave military service men and women in your prayers.

During Thanksgiving week, we will be joining the other churches in our community for our annual Ecumenical service, where we share in thanking God for the many blessings he has given us. We are especially thankful that we are able to assist our local food pantry with manpower and with food donations to help those in need at this time. In these difficult economic conditions, food shortages are a very real concern to many families in our local communities. We pray that all of you are responding to this critical need in your communities as well.

In early December we will hold our annual wreath and poinsettia sale. We look forward to preparing for the many joyous events and services that fill the Advent and Christmas seasons as 2009 draws to a close. We wish you a most blessed Christmas and offer our prayers that we will all be filled with the Holy Spirit as we endeavor to serve our Lord and Savior in 2010.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King!

----Ingrid Magar

Concord NH
All Saints

Praised be Jesus Christ! The Parish of All Saints is growing! As the Summer months ended and the Fall has resumed, there are 19 youth in the parish as of September. The Sunday School is providing excellent instruction, and the youth are involved in a myriad of activities as acolytes, lectors, ushers, and musicians. The future of a Church is in its youth, and God has truly bles All Saints abundantly.

The Right Reverend Dr. Brian Marsh, made his annual visitation in September. The Bishop arrived the day before and met with the Vestry to discuss the health of the parish and the effectiveness of the priest, Father Christian. After collating their reports and listening to the Vestry about challenges, blessings, and avenues for growth, he reviewed the books and found the parish to be on track and in full compliance with all diocesan/national assessments and programs. The following day he and Fr. Christian reviewed the visitation reports before heading to the church for Mass. The Bishop was treated to a pre-Liturgy musical presentation by the children who sang beautifully a piece from their Summer Bible Camp extravaganza, Technicolor Promise. The Holy Communion was followed by a parish pot-luck in which the Bishop experienced first hand the vibrant hospitality of All Saints parishioners both old and new. The Bishop commented “This parish
is a healthy example to the Diocese.” His obser-
vation and blessing bore fruit on the parish Fes-
tival of All Saints, November 1.

Sixth Anniversary of the founding of All Saints in Concord, NH fell on Sunday this year. In Thanksgiving to Almighty God a Solemn Holy Eucharist was planned and celebrated. The Arts Ministry provided the Mass Propers from the classical composers Beethoven and Hayden.

To add solemnity Father Robert and Brother Francis from St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Manchester, NH assisted, as well as, the always welcomed and very busy, Father Owen Williams the Dean of Trinity Pro-cathedral in Rochester, NH.

Amidst incense, candles, and song the church was packed with parishioners, guests and clergy to almost 100 people on that day! The food brought to the event must have multiplied, since everyone who attended ate their fill and there was a goodly amount left over.

Our Arts Ministry is continuing to flourish, and provides not only special music for the parish but a city/state wide opportunity to experience professional God-centered entertainment. The second week of November saw the 3rd Annual New Hampshire Opera Idol in which performers descended on All Saints to compete for monetary prizes and coveted opportunities to perform publicly. Our next major offering is A Dickens Christmas in which professional singers and actors under the leadership of our ministry director, Jane Cormier, will perform at the 900 seat Concord City Auditorium a very English vision of Christmas. This is a FREE performance underwritten by the parish and sponsors to allow for the true meaning of the Season to be proclaimed: Jesus Christ! All are welcome to Concord on December 12 at 7:30 PM to attend the performance, and it is rumored that Fr. Christian will again make a guest appearance on stage. For more information on the events and happenings at All Saints, visit the web-site at: www.allsaaintnh.com

Conway NH
St. Margaret of Scotland

Greetings from St. Margaret’s. Well, the fall weather is upon us, and we have had the annual color parade here in the beautiful Mt. Washington Valley. Most of the leaves are now on the ground, and we are looking forward to the Advent season, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Tracy Gardner and the choir continue to bring beautiful selections to the Sunday worship. In late August, Corinne Page and Jim Harrington gave a beautiful rendition of “I’ll walk With God”. In September, Fr. LaMarre began a class in learning how to pray the daily offices from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

October saw the resumption of the Sunday School, led by Alison Bergeron, Vestry member, and Ann Wilcox, co-president of the Women’s guild. The significant October event was of course, Synod. This year St. Margaret’s had the honor of hosting this wonderful event, which took place at the Red Jacket Hotel and Conference center in North Conway, New Hampshire. St. Margaret’s provided a hospitality room, hosted by Priscilla Berman and Maureen Sparti, and the children were entertained the next day by Alison Bergeron and Priscilla Berman. A good group of parishioners attended the three day event, as well as the official delegates. They included Alison Bergeron, Rosemary Grigorovich-Barsky, Loretta and Bob Whitehead, Roger Woodbury, Peter and Mary Thomas, Rebecca and James Harrington, Priscilla Berman,
and Maureen Sparti. From all accounts, the accommodations, food and program were well appreciated, and it was heartening to hear the news from the different parishes, as well as being introduced to new clergy. Our own interim priest, Fr. Kevin LaMarre, O.S.B. was in attendance, as well as newly ordained priest Fr. Jeffrey Monroe, who was ordained at Trinity Church in Rochester, NH in August. He received his diploma from his Divinity studies from Bishop March during Synod.

Following the Friday night dinner, the assembly was entertained by Bishop George Langberg, who took to the microphone to sing and accompanied himself on the guitar. Many had no idea we had such a talented Bishop. By the time he finished his rendition of “Take Me Home, Country Roads” feet were tapping and heads were bobbing to the music. All of the arrangements and details for this event were begun and executed months in advance by Loretta Steward Whitehead. She was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers at the end of the final meeting as appreciation for the extraordinary job she did in coordinating this event.

There was a parish leaders retreat on November 7, presented by Fr. Monroe. The end of November will see the transfer ceremony of duties from Fr. Kevin LaMarre to Fr. Jeffrey Monroe, who will officially take over as Interim Rector at St. Margaret’s. Although we are saddened to lose Fr. LaMarre, who has been a most kind and inspiring interim priest, we are excited to be the first official parish for Fr. Monroe as he begins his life as a priest. Fr. Monroe’s background includes being a licensed Master Mariner (captain) in the U.S. Merchant Marine. He was also head of the Portland, Me. Transportation Authority for a number of years. We welcome Fr. Monroe.

The Ladies’ Bible Study, under the direction of Rebecca Harrington, continues to meet every Wednesday. The Women’s Guild is now in full preparation for the annual Christmas fair which will take place on Saturday, Nov. 21st. Gift baskets, a Tiffany table, handcrafts, plus assorted baked goodies will be offered, plus a lunch and raffle of several articles. This event always serves to get everyone into the holiday mood, as we anticipate Advent and the coming of the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus. We wish a merry and blessed Christmas to all our Anglican friends, and peace on earth.

-----Maureen Sparti

In anticipation of the Feast Day of St. Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland, St. Margaret of Scotland will include the Kirkin of the Tartan in the Sunday service on November 29th at 9:30 AM. The service recounts the days when the wearing of the Tartan was restricted by the English during the English-Scot wars.

The actual service is more recent. During WWII, there was concern that Americans were not signing up to fight on behalf of Britain. Rev. Peter Marshall, then Chaplain of the USA Senate, attempted to instill pride in their homeland among Scots living in the USA. The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan ceremony was created by Rev. Marshall and held in churches across the USA. Later the ceremony was held in churches in Nova Scotia, and gained wide popularity until the first International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia in 1979. The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan is often found in Anglican, Protestant and Roman Catholic services.

Those with Scottish, Irish or English heritage, or have association with organizations are encouraged to attend and wear their Tartans in celebration of the day. The service will include special prayers and bagpipe music and will follow the traditional service of the Book of Common Prayer which came to the US Church through the Church of Scotland. This Sunday is also the First Sunday in Advent, the beginning of the Church Year.

-----Fr. Monroe

Canandaigua NY
Holy Redeemer

In August we received a donation of an outdoor lighted Nativity set from Ethel Vogt, and we look forward to using it.

Our annual parish picnic, postponed from an earlier date due to illness, was held on Labor
Day Weekend, again graciously hosted by Hillarie and John Dodge at their beautiful lakefront home. Small gathering—wonderful time—perfect weather.

On Oct 4th we held another joint service with our host, Cottage City United Church, with a luncheon following. Great fellowship and great food.

Five of us (Fr. Jim Ayers, Dale Bové, Diane and Wally and Cameron Jones) traveled to North Conway, NH for Synod. New York and New England were at their loveliest, with brilliant foliage and snow-capped mountains. Wonderful experience. Despite a trip to the ER for Cameron’s sudden illness (thankfully, an equally rapid recovery) he enjoyed seeing Bishop Marsh and Bishop and Mrs. Langberg, meeting everyone (especially the other children) who attended, taking photographs of everyone, and swimming at the waterpark. We enjoyed seeing some old friends, and developing new friendships, which we hope will continue to grow as we get to spend more time with each other at future events.

By the time this is published, Dale will have taken his exams to become a deacon; we are confident that he will pass with flying colors, and we look forward to his becoming formally ordained in December.

Christmas blessings to all!

----------Diane S. Jones

Webster NY
Holy Cross

Our recent Elegant Junque Sale was a rousing success – thanks in most part to the dedication, determination, and hard work of Hilda McLedd and Jeanne House, co-chairs of the two day event – and a small group of great workers. Everything from old postcards to fine china – from antique toys to strollers – from tennis rackets to bookshelves – items galore for everyone’s delight! We held a bake sale during the recent Election Day. As the voters streamed out of our facilities they were assailed with the aroma of freshly baked breads and bits of other yummy goodies. St. Martha’s next project, led by Anne Hotchkiss, will be the Christmas Faire in December. Vendors with their wares, a delicious lunch menu, a great time to get together with friends to shop, eat, mingle, and enjoy the holiday spirit.

Bill Rowley, one of the newer members of our church family, is teaching a most marvelous, informative, and very interesting Bible study class each Sunday morning before Church, teaching us how to read the Bible. Bill is studying for his PhD in philosophy at the University of Rochester. He is truly a remarkable teacher with an enormous amount of knowledge. What a gift Bill is giving to us! As I’ve mentioned in a prior issue of NEA, Bill’s wife Rebecca joined the Altar Guild. Rebecca is truly a blessing, and it is a joy to have a second person on the Altar Guild. She does a wonderful job – very dedicated, detailed, and genuine. The Rowleys are a great addition to our church family.

The northwest winds off Lake Ontario (less than ½ mile from our church) again wreaked havoc with another huge tree on the front side of the church. A few years ago we lost a giant tree, recently limbs were blown down, and two weeks later the back half of the remaining tree came down, mostly on the storage shed. Thankfully not a twig ever hit the church.

We warmly welcome our brand new organist. Aaron James is a most talented musician and a charming young man. He is doing his graduate studies at the Eastman School of Music and hails from Toronto, Canada. We all look forward to getting to know him.

Our deepest sympathy to Cindy Ayers (wife of Fr. Jim at Holy Redeemer) on the passing of her beloved Dad, James Hogue, in Hot Springs Arkansas. He was a fine family man, a gentleman of much spirituality and dedication to his church, and a wonderful friend to many.

Holly Hoyen’s mother, Mildred Eliasson also passed away recently. Our deepest condolences to Holly and her family. Whenever Mildred visited here from New Hampshire, she came to church with Holly and Harry. She shared her many talents with St. Martha’s
Charlestown, NH

Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd

Late last summer, Aare Ilves, a parishioner and lay reader at Good Shepherd, paid a visit to the homeland of his parents in Estonia. On his trip Aare met with Metropolitan Stephanos of the Estonian Apostolic-Orthodox Church who gave him a message and gift to bring back to the rector of the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd. These were presented to Bishop Brian Marsh in a brief ceremony at the end of Sunday services several weeks ago.

Aare’s parents immigrated to the United States from Estonia in the mid-1950s. In pursuing the genealogy of his family, Aare made several trips to Europe over the past decade during which he located his grandmother’s grave, the Estonian Orthodox Church that she attended, and the priest who conducted her funeral 36 years ago.

This past summer, he made the trip with a letter of introduction and greetings to officials of the Estonian Orthodox Church from Bishop Marsh. Aare presented the letter to the Office of the Estonian Apostolic-Orthodox Church in Tallinn and was soon warmly welcomed by His Eminence, the Most Blessed Stephanos, Metropolitan of Tallinn and All Estonia. The Orthodox Church of Estonia was granted autonomy by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople in 1923. During the Second World War, the Metropolitan at that time escaped to Sweden, and the Soviets put the Estonian Church under the control of Moscow. The autonomy of the Estonian Orthodox Church was restored in 1994.

Metropolitan Stephanos gave Aare a book on the history of the Estonian Church and asked him to convey it and his fraternal greetings to Bishop Marsh. This was done in a brief ceremony at the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd after Holy Eucharist on Sunday, October 18. Bishop Marsh expressed his delight in receiving this token of affection from Metropolitan Stephanos. “It is not often that a layman gets to play such a direct role in improving ecumenical relations between distant parts of the Catholic Church”, said Marsh. “We are very gratified that Aare had the opportunity to convey our greetings directly to Metropolitan Stephanos and that he was so graciously received.”

More recently, on the Second Sunday before Advent, we baptized six members of the Smith family from Bellows Falls, VT.
This included a mother, her daughter, the daughter’s infant son, and three other Smith children. It was a joyous occasion for us to welcome so many at one time to the Body of Christ. A reception followed the service in the parish hall.

Finally, on the evening of the Sunday Next Before Advent, Deacon Art Bennett led the Invocation at the annual Charlestown Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at the Charlestown Congregational Church. Parishioner Scott Chase served as an usher at the service. The monetary offering and donations of can goods benefited the Charlestown Food Shelf. In addition to our regular contributions of food to the Food Shelf, this year we were able to give six Thanksgiving turkey food baskets for distribution by the Food Shelf to those in need.

Advent blessings to all from your friends at Good Shepherd. —— Dcn David Moody

Thompson Dam, CT
St. Columba

St. Columba's finds itself in a special place in regard to the Pope's historic Apostolic Constitution. That is because we are using recently closed Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. Former parishioners from Sacred Heart continue to visit and worship with us. Their grief over the closing of a building sacred in their lives and their hopes that St. Columba's may prove a suitable community for them are both very apparent. The news of our potential new relationship with Rome has excited the entire community.

St. Columba’s is approaching the one year anniversary of the passing of Fr Farrell. Wonderful remembrances of Fr Farrell are being shared with much laughter and thanksgiving.

------Canon J.W. Westcott III

Fairfield and Oakland ME
Holy Trinity/St. Stephen’s

Father Jeff Monroe was relieved by Father Lewis Glidden of St. Stephen's Mission on November 15th. Father Glidden will be the Vicar of both parishes. St. Stephens has been given the property of the All Souls Unitarian Church in Oakland and Holy Trinity will join them in worship at that location sometime in December.

Old Orchard Beach ME
St. Augustine of Canterbury

October 18 saw the first service of the new St. Augustine of Canterbury Mission Parish in Old Orchard Beach Maine, with 42 family and friends attending. The Sunday evening service has remained steady with between 15 and 20 weekly. The parish has received a number of worship items and Fr. LaMarre provided an altar, Holy Trinity a baptismal font and set of rose paraments, Mr. Bill Maddison a tabernacle, the Bishop a chalice and ciborium, the Bean Family a silver paten and crystal cross, and Father Henthorne an altar cross.

The parish will begin Bible study on December 6 and is planning the Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan on Nov. 29 and Lessons and Carols on Dec. 13. Father Jeff Monroe is Vicar, David Brennan Sub-Deacon and Senior Warden and James Auddifred Junior Warden. Mr. Larry Morse is Music Director and Organist. The parish meets every Sunday at 5PM at Cathedral Pines Chapel in Old Orchard Beach, Maine.

Rochester NH
Trinity Anglican Church

Fall moved on so quickly and now we are getting ready for Christmas. The Choir at Trinity has several new members. For the first time in several years, we now have enough voices to rehearse the Hallelujah Chorus for Christmas Midnight Services. The Saint Anne’s Guild, which is the women’s guild of the Parish, had a tremendously successful Christmas Fair, netting over three thousand dollars. Several men of the parish have been tackling many of the projects which come with having such a wonderful place to worship; for example, the Tower entrance has been remodeled and the trees on either side have given way to new landscaping. Spring will tell.
Greetings to our many friends throughout the Diocese of the Northeast and beyond! Autumn has been a very busy time here at the Priory as we prepare for the Winter season, and thanks to the mild weather, get caught up on some long-overdue work on the premises! Sr. Mary-Francis has been very busy getting the barn and pasture areas ready for the Winter. Fr. Kevin, cleared and removed many large stones in the area that was formerly a chicken-yard and is using them to build a new wall which will enclose the meditation garden dedicated to the memory of our dearly-beloved friend and spiritual supporter, Bishop Chamberlain. Fr. Kevin used his antique 1942 Farmall tractor to move the stones. Any opportunity to work his “1942 Redneck S.U.V.” is happily accepted by this monk who is more at home on a tractor than in an auto! Once the rocks were all removed, the pasture was enlarged by moving the fencing into the former chicken-yard... giving the animals more room to move about and making the pasture a bit more aesthetically-pleasing to the eye. Fr. Kevin also located a spring that was known to be on the property and excavated it enough so that in the Spring a well tile will be placed around it and the possibility of using it for watering the farm will be explored. Getting in the winter wood is also an annual event that has been finished up. Not all projects were gotten to...so we’ll have a few things to look forward to in the Spring! Recently completed by Fr. Kevin is a beautiful communion rail that now resides in St. Oswald’s of Northumbria Oratory. This project took over a year to complete and will be officially blessed for use on “Gaudete” Sunday...Dec. 13th. The rail was modeled after the Medieval-Gothic style, which is in keeping with the chapel décor. It even features a “houseling cloth”...an item very prevalent on communion rails in Medieval Europe. It is our hope that this new liturgical appointment will not only add to the practical aspects of our beautiful Medieval monastic liturgy, but will deepen the spiritual experience of all who attend the services offered here.

On that note, if you, our dear readers and friends would like to attend a Monastic service here at the Priory, please stay tuned to the next edition of the NEA, and we will have posted the times of our services for the public. You are always welcome to call the Priory to check our service schedule if you would like to come see us before this. Our number is 207-655-4441.

This past year, Fr. Prior Kevin had the great privilege of serving as Interim Priest to the good people of St. Margaret’s Parish in Conway, N.H. His tenure ran from Holy Week until the Sunday next before Advent. During his term at St. Margaret’s, Fr. Kevin got to know the people of the parish better, and it was his hope that he provided a period of prayerful reflection and liturgical continuity as the Parish went from one period in their journey of faith and prepared for the next. Fr. Kevin was succeeded by Fr. Jeff Monroe, OSBN. Fr. Monroe will serve as the Interim Rector of the Parish for the next year, helping the Parish in the process of preparation for the calling of a full-time Rector. We extend our prayers to Fr. Monroe and the good people of St. Margaret’s during this time of spiritual discernment and preparation. Fr. Kevin will now, return to his duties at the Priory and will continue to serve the diocese as a supply priest.

DAILY OFFICE COURSE: Fr. Kevin has composed a course on how to learn to say the Daily Offices from the Book of Common Prayer. He presented this class for the first time at St. Margaret’s Parish this Fall and it was well-received. The class is taught in four sessions lasting about an hour each session. Please contact Fr. Kevin if your Parish would like to have him present this course. Knowing how to properly say the Daily Offices will deepen one’s spirituality and help one to better appreciate one of the great treasures that is contained within our 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

Peace and Blessings to all during this Christmas-Epiphany-tide season!

----------Fr. Prior Kevin LaMarre, OSB, klamarre@maine.rr.com
From the Board of Examining Chaplains

Why does it take so long to be ordained?

This question has been asked by more than one applicant for Holy Orders. Sometime ago an enthusiastic applicant applied with supporting papers, inquiring phone calls with questions, and came to the Board of Examining Chaplains expecting to be accepted as a promising candidate. He was told it would be a process which, of necessity, would take time. If he were able, he should enroll in a residential seminary program, at the least, enroll in Logos House, after which progress would depend on the amount of time he could devote to his studies. He was also told about Embertide letters and other necessary requirements. He left the meeting because he had expected he could be ordained much more quickly. Perhaps he felt he was God’s gift to ACA, but in any event he was not of a mind to devote the kind of time and effort the Board felt was necessary. After he left the meeting and despite his being notified about Clericus and the Summer Program, he has not been heard from again.

Bishops are reminded by St. Paul, “Lay hands suddenly on no man.” [1 Tim. 5:22] We try not to. This is not delay out of procrastination, but rather taking the necessary time for spiritual growth on the part of the applicant, and for academic preparation (which can vary depending on time devoted to study and so on). Some men progress faster than others.

Canonical exams are usually written and oral, and administered by the Board of Examining Chaplains, with the Bishop taking an active role also. The canons do provide for men who have limited academic skills (to some degree) but

BISHOP ANNOUNCES ORDINATION

By the Grace of God and the consent of the people, Mr. Ian E. Dunn will be Ordained Deacon by the Rt. Rev. Brian R. Marsh at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Ellsworth, Maine on Sunday, January 10, 2010. Mr. Dunn will be presented for ordination by the Rev. Canon Granville V. Henthorne, DD. The preacher for the occasion will be The Rev. Samuel M. Logan.

News notes

St. Andrew’s, Latham (formerly Cohoes) NY is no longer a part of the diocese.

Fr. Bryon Koshgarian, who had been ministering there is now a full-time Hospice chaplain for the Albany area and is ministering under Bishop Marsh in a somewhat informal and still unstructured mission in the Albany area, under the name “Mission of St. Michael and All Angels”.

(from a telephone conversation with Fr. Koshgarian)
who do demonstrate evidence of a sincere vocation and who are thereby ordained to some specific parish or ministry.

If a man can possibly manage the financial obligation of a residential program—there are scholarships and other financial aids which may be available—he should go that route if at all possible. Do not give up on this possibility without thorough inquiry first.

At the least, pursue a combination of Logos House, the Summer Session (which will be offered in June of 2010), plus on-line course opportunities offered through Logos House, Gordon-Conwell, and other institutions.

It is natural to feel a bit uncertain at times and to wonder if all this is worthwhile. That is why you have a mentor who should be available to help you over the rough spots and the times of spiritual dryness. Take advantage of your support system. That is one of the reasons you have it. You are not alone—most of us have had this feeling and have surmounted and survived it.

Keep up with your rule of life. Maintain contact with your mentor(s). They want to help, but they are not clairvoyant mind readers. They need to hear from you just as much as you need to communicate with them. If you have slacked from your rule of life, take stock of where you are and stay with it!

Remember to send your Embertide letters to Bishop Marsh. Let him know about your work in the Church, your rule of life, and your progress (or lack of it in some cases).

Participation in the life of your parish: Your parish priest can use your help. Most men will serve as parish priests—that is where you will find the people of God. There will be times of frustration—not everyone will respond to the Christian message of salvation or understand the importance of commitment to Jesus Christ.

--------Fr. James H. Davis, chairman

Remember: Keep current with your quarterly Embertide letters. Keep praying! Plan to attend the Summer training program. Further information to follow. Stay tuned!

Just in: Logos House Summer Program will be June 13-18 in Alfred, Maine. More details will follow.

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Logos House

Attached is a photo of Kevin Kelly, Seminarian, Joyce Barr, Registrar for Logos House, and Ian Dunn, Seminarian, all working to paint the exterior of the newly constructed Logos House Library in October 2009. Kevan Shave, Siobhan Harris, and Ed Hart also participated in the painting party that day.

At this time insulation and wiring are being finished. Floor and Sheet-rocking will come next. Moving the books from Brooksville to Ellsworth is scheduled for the last weekend of January. Canon Cox (Librarian), and Canon Henthorne have begun packing books into boxes by category already. This is a huge job in itself. On the moving weekend Fr. Jeff Monroe, Executive Administrator of Logos House, will be coordinating the move by as many Logos House students as possible to make short work of a big project.

The move of Logos House to its permanent location in Ellsworth is exciting as well as expensive. While there is enough money to complete the insulation of the library, our Building Fund has been depleted at this point. This is just the first building for the campus of Logos House. Housing of students and classrooms will need to be built. Anyone who feels moved to make donations to the building fund of Logos House of Theological Studies, they may do so by contacting The Rev. Granville Canon Henthorne, Dean, Logos House, P O Box 365, Ellsworth, ME 04605-0365. Phone # 207 326 4120.

---------Joyce Barr
In the Person of Jesus

by Ed Pacht

Light came into the world,
and the Light shone brightly
and illuminated the doings of men.
The Light came
and the Light shone,
and the world didn’t understand the Light.
The world hated the Light.
The world feared the Light,
and the world tried to put out the Light,
and on the Cross the Light died,
and there was darkness at noon,
and in the darkness the earth shook,
and the foundations of the universe trembled;
but the Light would not finally die.
The Lord of life returned from the grave,
and the Light shines still,
and the Light of life fills the universe,

Ye who own the faith of Jesus,

Vincent Stucky Stratton Coles (1845-1929)

Ye who own the faith of Jesus,
sing the wonders that were done
when the love of God the Father
over sin the victory won,
when he made the Virgin Mary
mother of his only Son.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Blessed were the chosen people
out of whom the Lord did come;
blessed was the land of promise
fashioned for his earthly home;
but more blessed far the mother,
who bare him in her womb.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Wherefore let all faithful people
tell the honor of her name;
let the Church, in her foreshadowed,
part in her thanksgiving claim;
what Christ's mother sang in gladness
let Christ's people sing the same.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Let us weave our supplications,
she with us and we with her,
for the advancement of the faithful,
for each faithful worshiper,
for the doubting, for the sinful,
for each heedless wanderer.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

May the Mother's intercessions
on our homes a blessing win,
that the children all be prospered,
strong and fair and pure within,
following our Lord's own footsteps,
firm in faith and free from sin.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

For the sick and the aged,
for our dear ones far away,
for the hearts that mourn in secret,
all who need our prayers today,
may the holy Virgin pray.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

Praise, O Mary, praise the Father,
praise thy Savior and thy Son,
praise the everlasting Spirit,
who hath made thee ark and throne
o'er all creatures high exalted,
lowly praise the Three in One.
Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary, full of grace.

(found in the English Hymnal and often sung in AngloCatholic parishes to a lively tune)
Parishes and Missions

Connecticut
Manchester: Ascension - Sun 10.30am
(43 Spruce St.) (860)643-7674.
Fr. Robert Frederickson
Mystic: St. Matthias - Sun 10am
(at Old Mystic Village, Coogan Blvd.)
(860)643-7674 Fr. Robert Frederickson
Thompson: St. Columba—Sun 10am
(Sacred Heart RC, 47 W. Thompson Rd.)
(860)243-3606 Fr. John W. Westcott

Maine
Camden: Resurrection Mission
(Windward Gardens, 105 Mechanics St.) (207)236-2241.
Fr. Frank Gray.
Ellsworth: St. Thomas - Sun 10am
(373 Bangor Rd., Rt. 1A) (207)667-2001.
Fr. Granville Henthorne
Fairfield: Holy Trinity - Sun 10am
(Asa Bates Chapel, Ten Lots Road, Center Fairfield)
Fr. Kevin LaMarre OSB (207)655-4441
Old Orchard: St. Augustine of Canterbury
Sun 5pm (Cathedral Pines Chapel,
156 Saco Ave) Fr. Jeff Monroe (207)799-5141
Portland: St. Paul
Sun 7, 8 & 10 am (279 Congress St.)
(207)236-2412 Fr. Samuel Logan
Raymond,: Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Priory
(4 Shaw Road) (207)655-4441
Rev. Prior Kevin LaMarre, OSB

Massachusetts
Belchertown: St. John the Baptist
Sun 10.30am (at Masonic Bldg., 1 Main St.)
(413)737-0840, Fr. James Hurd
Dudley: St. Columba
(meeting in Thompson CT—see above)
Easthampton: St. George - Sat 4pm
(at Trinity Lutheran, Clark St. & Rt. 141).
(413)737-0840 Fr. James Hurd

New Hampshire
Amherst: St. Luke - Sun 8 & 10am
(3 Limbo Lane) (603)672-6054.
Dcn Frank Bartlett
Charlestown: Good Shepherd - Sun 9am
(20 Summer St.) (413)552-1580.
Bishop Brian Marsh.
Dcn's David Moody & Arthur Bennett
Concord: All Saints’ - Sun 1pm
(at Concordia Lutheran, 211 North Main)
(603)545-9079 Fr. Christian Tutor OSA.

Conway: St. Margaret of Scotland - Sun 9.30am
(85 Pleasant St.) (603)447-2404
Fr. Jeff Monroe.
Cornish (moved to West Lebanon)
Holderness: St. Michael - Sun 8.15am
(at Community Church, Rte. 3)
(603)545-9079 Fr. Christian Tutor OSA.
Rochester: Trinity - Sun 8 & 9.30am
(180 Rochester Hill Road) (603)332-4121
Fr. Owen Williams
Salem: St. John the Evangelist - Sun. 1:30
Winter/4pm Summer (at Tenney Methodist) 290
Main St. (603)232.7940 . Dcn Frank Bartlett
West Lebanon: Trinity—Sun 11am
(Seventh Day Adventist Church).
99 Maple Avenue, ) (413)552-1580.
Bp Brian Marsh, Dcn. David Moody

New York
Brooklyn: St. Joseph - Sun 11am
(123-131 Arlington Avenue)
Fr. Carlton C. Clarke (914)629-1616
Canandaigua: Holy Redeemer - Sun 10am
(4575 Rte 364 - East Lake Road). (585)334-3512
Fr. James Ayers.
Glendale(Queens): St. Augustine—Sun 9.30am
(Glendale Reformed Church, 77-45 64th Place)
Fr. Neville Braithwaite (718)756-1258
Hartsdale: St. Gabriel - Sunday 8.30am
130 North Central Ave. (at St. Paul’s UMC)
Fr. Carlton C. Clarke (914)629-1616
Huntington Station: Good Shepherd - Sun 10am
(VFW Hall, 210 West Pulaski Road)
Liverpool: St. Mary the Virgin - Sun 8 & 10
Wetzel and Morgan Roads (315)652-3538
Canon Nelson Skinner, Fr. Albert K. Jungers
Tuxedo: St. Elizabeth - Sun 10am
(38 Chapel Turn, Eagle Valley) (845)753-6407.
Bp. George Langberg.
Fr. Robert Ley, Fr. Alan Koller
Webster: Holy Cross - Sun 10am
(615 Bay Road) . (585)467-6029
Fr. David Ambuske
West Winfield: St. Lucy (10265 US Rte 20)
(315)822-3952. Dcn. Richard Dibble

Vermont
Poultney: St. David - 1st Sundays 9.30am
(at the Senior Center) (802)645-1962
Fr. Alexander Stringer.
Clergy Anniversaries

My list is woefully incomplete and probably inaccurate. Please help me get it right. ed.

Dec
06 - Bp Brian Marsh, D 1997
06 – Fr. Frank Grey, D 1997
08 - Fr. Christian Tutor, vows 1987
14 - Bp George Langberg, D 1985

Jan
01 - Fr. James Davis, P 1955
19 - Dcn William Morrill, birthday

Feb
02 - Fr. Christian Tutor OSA, D 2007
22 - Fr. Owen Williams, D 1998
23 - Fr. Kevin LaMarre OSB, birthday
24 - Fr. Alexander Stringer, P 1953

Next Issue in February
Deadline for submissions will be around January 15

Projected regular deadlines will be the 15th day of Feb, May, Aug, & Nov

Northeast Anglican
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